Today's News - Thursday, November 8, 2007

We tried to find a positive review of London's new Olympic stadium (we really did!), but alas: we couldn't resist Glancey x 3 (including narrated video). — Dyckhoff asks "where's the architecture?" (and whatever happened to Foreign Office Architects aesthetic vision?) — Baillieu wonders what happened to Peter Cook. — Look! We found one: the stadium "harks back to the grandeur of ancient Rome" (but then Bayley weighs in). — A British think tank says £30 billion hasn't had an impact on urban regeneration (of course, the government totally rejects the claim). de Portzamparc picked for movie museum in Hollywood. — Melbourne arts district set for major facelift. — Orlando finalizes design team for new performing arts center. — A multi-billion-dollar mega-resort heading for Atlantic City will be a "a large series of 'wows'." — Canadian security expert suggests that government agencies and industry leaders establish two-way sharing of information. — BBC international poll finds most people are ready for "green" sacrifices. — Piano goes fishing (mentally), and shows us his list of wonders of the world. — Three case studies of anti-suburbanites in NYC, LA, and London. — Metropolis brings us Live@Greenbuild. — Calls for entries: EOI for Waterloo City Square in London, and Integrating Habitats in Oregon.

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Long on legacy, short on wow: "This is a very simple building", said Rod Sheard, architect in charge of the design of the London 2012 Olympic stadium. And, I must say, it's hard to disagree....safe, sensible and pragmatic design has clearly been driven by the dreaded "L" word...but, matter-of-fact and just a little mousey, this will certainly be no white elephant. By Jonathan Glancey -- HOK Sport- Guardian (UK)

Will the Olympic stadium have a life after the games? Politicians are haunted by the white-elephant experience of the Dome as the final design for the Olympics arena is revealed. So what will be its legacy to the nation post 2012? Legacy-per-hour, or LPH, is the new scientific measurement (oh, all right, I've just made it up)... By Jonathan Glancey -- HOK Sport- Guardian (UK)

Plain and practical is the aim as London unveils its 2012 stadium: Jonathan Glancey's take on promotional video [video]- Guardian (UK)

Olympic stadium is deflated architecture at an inflated price: ...main stadium is meant to be the showstopping jewel in the Olympics' crown, not something from Ikea fit for a garden party. Where's the pizzazz? Where's the showbiz? Where's the architecture, Tessa? By Tom Dyckhoff – HOK Sport- The Times (UK)

2012 Olympic stadium design disappoints on all fronts: Rather than being innovative and ground breaking, as claimed by the ODA, HOK's newly-unveiled stadium is unsustainable and poor value for money...while we all hoped Peter Cook's involvement might have lent a certain je ne sais quoi, his presence seems to have been non-existent. By Amanda Baillieu- BD/Building Design (UK)

A Colossus Olympic stadium: London's stunning 2012 Olympic stadium harks back to the grandeur of ancient Rome..."Architects may hate it but everyone else should welcome the world's most environmental stadium."..."The stadium is the work of a big American commercial architecture firm who called in Peter Cook, an antique local modernist, to add design credibility" (Stephen Bayley)- Mirror (UK)

£30bn 'did little to boost towns': ...spent on regeneration schemes in UK towns and cities over the past 10 years has had no real impact, a centre-right think tank [Policy Exchange] has claimed...Local Government Minister John Healey said: "We totally reject these claims..."- BBC News

French Architect Picked for Museum of Motion Pictures...for a site just south of Sunset Boulevard in Hollywood.: ..."an exciting and practical, and also not obvious architect." -- Christian de Portzamparc; Gallagher & Associates- New York Times

Arts precinct set for major facelift: ...\$200 million master plan to reinvigorate the Arts Centre (Melbourne)...would create a precinct that was unique in Australia. — Frances-Jones Morehen Thorp Architects- The Age (Australia)

Key design team members named for Orlando performing arts center -- Barton Myers; HKS; Barker Barrios Architects; Anderson & Associates; Theatre Projects Consultants; Artec- Orlando Business Journal (Florida)

Revel unveils plans for megaresort in Atlantic City; ...expected to cost between \$2 billion and \$2.5 billion..."We were empowered to create a large series of "wows' " -- BLT Architects (Bower Lewis Thrower) [slide show]- Courier-Post (New Jersey)

A Canadian View on Security: Creating an All-Hazards Approach to Public Safety. Q&A with Canadian security expert Margaret Purdy....suggests that government agencies and industry leaders establish robust, two-way sharing of information... By Barbara A. Nadel, FAIA- Buildings.com

Most ready for 'green sacrifices': Most people are ready to make personal sacrifices to address climate change, according to a BBC poll of 22,000 people in 21 countries.-BBC News

Renzo Piano's Light Touch: The architect may be 70 years old, but he's having a good year. His firm is currently working on 20 high profile, global projects..."Mentally I go fishing," he says. "I fish for emotion and inspiration from the place, from the people."

[slide show]- BusinessWeek

The Antisuburbanites: Three stories explaining how dedicated urbanites carved out city homes...that give them room to breathe while still promoting togetherness in London, New York City and Los Angeles. -- Neil Denari/NMDA; Richard Rogers/Tonkin Liu; Delson or Sherman Architects [images]- New York Times

<u>Live@Greenbuild: Can't make it to Chicago? Listen to featured speakers from your computer.</u>- Metropolis Magazine

Call for Expressions of Interest (EOI/PQQ): Waterloo City Square [South Bank, London] design contest launched; deadline: December 12 [link to details]-London SE1

Call for entries: Integrating Habitats. An international design competition to combine design excellence, ecological stewardship and economic enterprise; deadline:

<u>December 17- Portland Metro (Oregon)</u>

Gehry Partners: Jay Pritzker Pavilion, Millennium Park, Chicago

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